

Welcome to the Probate and Family Court Department of the Massachusetts Trial Court.

Many Probate and
Family Law matters
involve complex and
valuable legal rights.
You should always
speak with an attorney
before filing any papers.

LOOKING FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE?

This booklet
contains a list of
Lawyer Referral Services,
Free Legal Resources and
Legal Aid Agencies in

PLYMOUTH COUNTY

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICES MASSACHUSETTS BAR ASSOCIATION

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

Referrals to private attorneys, including reduced fee panel.

Call (617) 654-0400 or (800) 392-6164

E-mail: lrs@massbar.org
To register online, visit
www.massbar.org/lawhelp/

BOSTON BAR ASSOCIATION

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

Referrals to private attorneys, including reduced fee panel. Serves mainly Greater Boston, inside Route 495, but will provide referrals throughout Massachusetts.

Call (617) 742-0625 or e-mail: lrs@bostonbar.org

For more information, visit

www.bostonbar.org/lrs/index

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

OF PLYMOUTH COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Referrals to private attorneys in Plymouth County. Call (508) 584-6600

NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD

14 Beacon Street, Suite 407 Boston, MA 02108

Lawyer referral service geared to low and moderate income clients, women and minority rights issues but will take any case. Spanish speaking staff available.

Serves Brockton only.

Call (617) 227-7008 Mon - Fri 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. or leave a message

LEGAL RESOURCES

The Massachusetts Trial Court provides free legal resources

MASSACHUSETTS JUDICIAL BRANCH WEB SITE

The official web site of the Judicial Branch includes judicial profiles, addresses, phone numbers and directions for courthouses as well as other useful information about the Trial Court. Click on www.state.ma.us/courts

PLYMOUTH LAW LIBRARY

County Commissioners Bldg. 11 South Russell Street Plymouth, MA 02360 Brockton Law

LIBRARY
Superior Courthouse
72 Belmont Street
Brockton, MA 02301

The Massachusetts Trial Court Law Libraries are open to the public, providing legal reference services and legal research assistance. The libraries are open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Ask at the Registry of Probate for the Law Libraries pamphlet which provides more details.

Call (508) 747-4796 (Plymouth) or (508) 586-7110 (Brockton) or visit the Law Libraries web site www.lawlib.state.ma.us

Free resources offered by the Massachusetts Bar Association

Tel-Law

Tel-Law is a collection of recorded messages designed to answer basic questions about the law. Tel-Law is fully automated and you can access it 24 hours/day by calling (617) 338-0669. (Toll charges may apply)

WEB SITE

The MBA's web site offers answers to basic legal questions. Point your browser to www.massbar.org

DIAL-A-LAWYER

The first Wednesday of every month you can get free legal help, by telephone, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Lawyer volunteers staff phones to answer your questions. Call (617) 338-0610

LEGAL SERVICE AGENCIES

These resources are available only to very low income and elderly individuals

SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

LEGAL ASSISTANCE CORPORATION

231 Main Street, Suite 201 Brockton, MA 02301-4342 For intake, call (800) 244-9023

Handles guardianships and family law cases for primary caretaker. Priority given to cases with domestic abuse.

Serves Abington, Bridgewater, Brockton, East Bridgewater, Halifax, Hanover, Hanson, Mansfield, Marion, Mattapoisett, Rockland, West Bridgewater and Whitman.

New Center for Legal Advocacy

257 Union Street New Bedford, MA 02740 (800) 244-9023

Handles guardianships and family law cases, priority given to cases with domestic abuse. Free 90 minute divorce clinics in the courthouse in Brockton. Call for dates and times.

Serves Abington, Bridgewater, Brockton, East Bridgewater, Hanover, Mansfield, Mattapoisett, Rockland, West Bridgewater and Whitman.

LEGAL SERVICES FOR CAPE COD AND THE ISLANDS 460 West Main Street, Hyannis, MA 02601 (508) 746-2777 or (800) 585-4933

Handles divorces for primary caretakers with abuse and contested custody.

Serves Carver, Duxbury, Halifax, Hanson, Kingston, Lakeville, Marion, Marshfield, Middleborough, Pembroke, Plymouth, Plympton, Rochester and Wareham.

Greater Boston Legal Services

197 Friend Street Boston, MA 02114 (800) 323-3205 or (617) 371-1234

Represents custodial parents in divorce, paternity, visitation, parental kidnapping, contested guardianships and contempts (with certain restrictions). Represents prospective guardians if parents do not object. Limited representation in DSS involved cases (with certain restrictions).

Serves Hingham, Hull, Norwell and Scituate.

VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROJECT OF THE BOSTON BAR ASSOCIATION 29 Temple Place, Suite 300 Boston, MA 02111 (617) 423-0648 or (617) 338-6790 (TTY)

Assigns private volunteer attorneys to represent indigent individuals in divorces, child custody cases, wills and uncontested guardianships of minors and adults.

Serves Hingham, Scituate and Norwell only.

LEGAL ADVOCACY & RESOURCE CENTER

Provides telephone information, pro se assistance and referrals to legal service agencies. Intake hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Call (800) 342-5297

LAWYER OF THE

DAY

LAWYER OF THE DAY

Private, volunteer attorney offers brief consultation at the courthouse providing basic legal advice to qualifying individuals on a walk-in basis in Brockton and Plymouth. Attorney does not accompany individual into the courtroom. Attorney is not available every day in both locations. For availability, call (508) 747-6204 (Plymouth) or (508) 897-5400 (Brockton) or ask at the Registry of Probate.